

November 13, 1969

# GRECC PRESS

Last Wednesday on November 5th, ground was broken for our new campus. As a student who feels an active concern for and pride in GCC, I think that this is an appropriate occasion to comment on the objectives and the directions of the Community College system.

The community college was established to meet the need for a high quality, low cost college education. It differs from other state-supported schools in that it is community-oriented rather than just student-oriented. We draw our support and our students from area citizens and we offer in return a variety of community programs in addition to the junior college curriculum. The community college is the assurance, unique to America, that everybody, regardless of economic ability or previous academic standing, can get a good college education. The qualification for admission is a high school diploma, and even this requirement can be waived if the applicant shows the potential to benefit from what we offer.

This policy of open admissions is basic to the community college idea, but I don't have difficulty envisioning a day when we will be faced with more applicants than there are places. Should this happen, admission would become competitive and criteria would have to be established which would accept some students over others. There are three main types of qualifications which could be used:

1. previous academic competence,
2. personal potential, and 3. a lottery system.

Should the determining factors be academic, then our basic premise of open admission would have to be discarded, leaving us with

the same entrance rat race as every other college. Admitting students impartially through the use of a lottery system would at least offer every applicant an equal chance of being admitted. The remaining solution is to rely upon personal qualifications as inferred from the interview, letters of recommendation, and the student's potential as determined by the Director of Admissions. The drawback here, of course, is how one identifies and defines such intangible traits as potential or academic promise. In the end, that assessment lies with the interviewer and his impressions of the applicant, supplemented by personal recommendations. This assumes, and rightly so, good judgement and fair appraisal by the Director of Admissions. Faced with a choice among the above three alternatives, I will always opt for personal potential over previous academic performance.

To return to concerns of the present: because community colleges are relatively small, they cannot offer a wide variety of departments. The trend, therefore, is towards a degree of specialization within the state system. Each college offers the basic departments such as Liberal Arts and Business Administration, but each also offers a department of specialized interest which is open to all community college students in the state. GCC, for instance, has degree programs in Nursing, Recreation, and Mental Health Technology; Holyoke Community College has a degree program in Music. Thus the individual colleges can remain small, while the system as a whole offers just about everything.

Among improvements which I

would like to see is an enlarged work-study program. Ours was substantially reduced this year and one administrator here foresees little hope for its expansion in the future. Greenfield, it seems, is considered a "high socio-economic area" in comparison to such areas as Springfield. Thus the money for these programs is being channeled into less wealthy communities. My second suggestion is to cut back on the purchase of unnecessary "educational equipment" and to use this money to hire more teachers. I am not opposed to buying equipment which has a specific use, such as computers or date-processing machines. But I don't feel that the quality of education is improved or even affected by overhead projectors and closed-circuit televisions which are rarely used. As a last suggestion, I don't think it would be a bad idea if the college stuck a finger into the student housing pie (more on this topic in a later issue).

Despite such technicalities, I feel that the community college system is the most important educational idea since land-grant colleges realized that there are other fields besides the ministry and farming. With the continued support of the college and local community, I feel that the community college will eventually assume the most significant role in higher education in the United States. cp

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Any student who is interested in attending the concert put on by the Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra this Sat. at 8:00 can obtain free tickets in the Main Office. Regular tickets are \$3.50

## GCC MARKS M-DAY II

Greenfield Community College will observe the second war moratorium on Thursday night, November 13th, in the college auditorium. A community forum sponsored by the Franklin County Peace Action Committee will feature prominent spokesmen and community citizens in a panel discussion of the war program. The panel will consist of two main speakers, a citizen's panel and a moderator.

Professor Peter Rowe, head of the government department at Smith College, will deliver an opposition to the present war policy. Professor Paul Savage, a retired lieutenant-colonel of the U. S. army and a member of the government department at U. Mass. will support the president position. The citizen's panel, made up of a community citizens and 2 students from GCC, will question the speakers on their presentations. Members of the panel are Mrs. Stuart Sinclair, Mr. Harold Le Vanway, Kevin Moloney, and Ronald Kenny. Professor Milton Mayer, professor of English at U. Mass. and professor of Humanities at Windham College, will be moderator. The program will begin at 7:30 on Thursday night. There is no admission charge.

While this program should be very interesting, I am displeased to hear that the college itself is not sponsoring any activities. At one time, certain faculty members were to discuss the war policy and historical parallels, and carry on a discussion with the students. However, it seems that the Programs Committee was doubtful as to student response. It was also rumored that they didn't feel that the college program would compare favorably to the Thursday night offering. If this

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rumor has any basis whatsoever, then I am extremely disappointed in the lack of faith on the part of the Programs Committee in the ability of our faculty to put on a good program. As for a want of student interest in an offering of this nature, I also would not expect a large attendance. However, no program can be expected to interest everyone and I am sure that a college-sponsored program would draw as much interest as that which is planned by the Peace Action Committee, if only because of the students' familiarity with those involved.

The Programs Committee is not wholly responsible for the lack of Moratorium Day exercises. If they are sincerely desired, the students themselves should take the initiative in this matter. Aside from classroom discussions concerning the war program and dissent in general, students here have not expressed any intent to take other actions on that day.

#### STUDENT ACTION COMMITTEE

The first meeting of the Student Action Committee took place last Friday. Mrs. Case is the faculty advisor. There were approximately forty students present and a discussion was held on the purpose of the committee. It was established that the purpose was to increase and improve the relationship between the community and the college. Their first activity will be a leaf-raking this weekend for community residents. Planned by Hank Tenney and Charlie Kulch, donations and proceeds resulting from this event will be contributed to the

fund to rebuild the pumping station bridge. A second meeting is tentatively planned for this Friday at 11:00 in the auditorium.

David Dickau

#### ..... DEATH OF A RADIO PROGRAM

The Greenfield Community College radio program has succumbed, at least for the remainder of this semester. Its unfortunate demise is due solely to a lack of response from the student body. A radio program requires a lot of work and a lot of ideas; these cannot be supplied by one or two people. Hopefully, as freshmen become accustomed to the college and as sophomores become reaccustomed to their workload, activity will increase. There will be a new attempt to establish a radio program during the second semester. If you are interested, sit tight and collect your ideas. Our time will come.

Jim Atkins

#### ..... THE DAY PROGRAMS COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

On Wednesday, November 19th, Russell Johnson will speak on the topic: "Is America Out of Step With History?" He is a member of the American Friends' Service Committee and a traveling representative of their organization.

On Monday, November 24th at 11:00, Ric Masten, a folksinger, will perform in the GCC auditorium.

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M-DAY II  
A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

On October 15th, the students of GCC behaved like responsible, adult individuals. For this they should be commended.

Now we are approaching a two day moratorium in November. One hopes that this commendable behavior will continue. But better still, I hope that this second moratorium will not be observed at all. President Nixon's speech should have made it clear to everyone that the problems of the war cannot be solved by simply pulling out. The president is not joking with us, and he is in a far better position to know what is going on than we are. Do we have advisors who give advice on the basis of top secret information? Why, most of us are looking at the war situation as an emotional issue. Unfortunately, it is a practical issue. We should wait for a while before we exert any further pressure on the administration. We should give Mr. Nixon and the others a fair chance.

Margaret Putnam

ATTENTION: Sophomores.

A transfer representative from C.W. Post college, Long Island N.Y., will visit the college on Tuesday, November 18th. For those students interested, meet in room 304 at 10:00.

CORRECTION: The dates of the Drama club's performance of Blood Wedding were incorrectly given in the last issue. The correct dates are December 11, 12, and 13th.

GCC BAND SURFACES!

Did you know that your school has a band? That's right! We are now five members strong, not counting Miss Mayberry, director and pianist. There are two trumpets, two flutes, and one girl playing clarinet, bassoon or oboe (it hasn't been determined yet which!).

Oh yes! We've heard that there's a lot of talent among us. So don't be left out this Christmas. Bring your instrument to school this Friday at 11:00 over at the West Building to room 112. We can have a colorful and more meaningful Christmas.

Jim O'Shea

EDUCATION CLUB PRESENTS: On Friday, November 21 at 11:00, Mr. P. Mason, city councilor in Springfield, Mass. Mr. Mason will speak on the present unrest in the Springfield school system. He recently appeared on television and stated "We do not need people such as Andrew Griffin and Wade Rathke in Springfield". His talk should be of special interest to all students anticipating a career in the educational field.

DRACULA!  
DRACULA!  
DRACULA!  
DRACULA!  
DRACULA!

Get it? Watch it!

A thousand curses on whomever misses this classic of 1931, with Bela Lugosi and David Marmers. Thursday night, November 13th. Channel 4; 1:00 a.m.

Dr. Padgug wishes to announce to the student body that the present school policy concerning class cancellations, as stated in the Faculty Handbook, is that the student wait a reasonable amount of time (ten minutes), send a class member to the Dean of Faculty to report the instructor's absence, upon which the Dean of Faculty or his designated representative will decide whether to cancel the class or have the students continue it themselves.

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(Editor's note: The following article was written without the knowledge of the above statement by Dean Padgug.)

#### COMMENTS ON CANCELLED CLASSES

Mumbled and incoherent sounds spread through the lecture class as it was perceived by the students that no appearance would be made by the instructor. Under the misconception that the standing policy was for students to wait for an instructor ten minutes and a professor for twenty minutes, the majority of the students left.

No policy of any kind is found in the Student Handbook informing the student body of any different statement, or indeed, any statement at all concerning cancelled classes. If one wishes to know the policy, he may ask a faculty member, who may or may not be able to give him a correct answer.

Upon exploring this issue further, I have found that our policy at GCC is for the students to wait for ten minutes, then send a member of the class to the Dean of Faculty and wait for an answer. However, I feel that the policy which I first mentioned is more realistic for mature adults. This

is not a high school.

One assumes that an instructor is not irresponsible, thus he is expected to be at the class on time. If he is ten minutes late, the students can justifiably conclude that he will not appear for some good reason. Therefore what is the point of going to the Dean of Faculty to further ascertain the instructor's presence?

I would like to know where our present policy came from, why it was instituted and how it can be changed. I would like these questions answered publicly, not only for my benefit but for the student body, through the student communications media of the newspaper.

C. Carver

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Do you like to sing? Do you sing with your radio? Solo in the shower? Do you sing up a storm entertaining guests with your beautiful voice? If you've answered any of these questions in the affirmative, then you're just the person we're looking for.

The Glee Club is just getting organized under the supervision of the talented Grace Mayberry and is preparing a Christmas program. Membership is still open to all students wishing to sing in the Christmas program. We have four strong male voices now and will welcome more eagerly. Girls: don't feel slighted; we need you too. If interested, show up in room W112 on Monday at 11:00, Wednesday at 11:00 and Thurs. at 12:30 am.

P.M. & S.B.

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Editor: Stephen Flynn  
Staff: Jim Atkins, Sue Brisette, Pat Mirabello, Brenda Gay, Martha Corey, Daniel Patterson, James Ramanek, Brian McKenna, Cindy Carver, Sue Therrian, Jim O'Shea.

For all those interested in working with the school newspaper: Please fill out this page so we can get in touch with you.

Where can you be reached? Telephone number?

When are you free? What times? What evenings?

Do you need transportation at any time?

Are you interested in writing?

Reporting facts, collecting information from faculty, clubs, etc?

Art work (printing, cartoons, silk screen printing, etc)?

General help - stapling, mimeographing, distribution?

Secretarial work (typing, etc.)?

Even if you do not want to be on the staff, we still hope that you will write for us. Anything pertaining to, or affecting the college is acceptable. Please leave this form in the newspaper mailbox on the basement floor outside the cafeteria.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_